

Appl. No.: 10/783,181
Docket No.: DB000956-007
Amdt. Dated: 1 March 2005
Reply to Advisory Action of 22 February 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

Figure 10, which is now identified as “New Sheet” as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.121, is re-submitted herewith. Figure 10 is added to the drawings to offer a more detailed illustration of the features of operation 903 as found in Figure 9. Support for new Figure 10 may be found in paragraphs 65 – 66. No new matter is added.

REMARKS

Applicants request entry of this Amendment on the grounds that it places the application in condition for allowance and/or in better condition for appeal.

Applicants acknowledge the allowance of claims 1, 2, and 4.

As requested by the Examiner, the current status of U.S. application serial number 10/016,183 is provided to the Cross-Reference to Related Applications section. Additionally, Figure 10 is re-submitted with the words "New Sheet" (instead of "New Page") in the top margin thereof.

Claims 3, 5, and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stinson et al. (U.S. Pat. No.: 6,553,545) in view of Durham et al. (U.S. Pat. No.: 6,532,574). Claims 8 – 10 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 3 is amended to include language from claim 10. Claim 3, as amended, is in effect claim 10 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, it is believed that claim 3 is in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 3 be withdrawn.

Claim 5 is amended to include language from claim 8. Claim 5, as amended, is in effect claim 8 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, it is believed that claim 5 is in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 5 be withdrawn.

Claim 6 is amended to include language from claim 9. Claim 6, as amended, is in effect claim 9 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, it is believed that claim 6 is in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 6 be withdrawn.

Claim 8 is amended to depend solely from allowable claim 1. Accordingly, it is believed that claim 8 is in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the objection of claim 8 be withdrawn.

Claim 9 is amended to depend solely from allowable claim 2. Accordingly, it is believed that claim 9 is in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the objection of claim 9 be withdrawn.

Claim 10 is amended to depend solely from allowable claim 6. Accordingly, it is believed that claim 10 is in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the objection of claim 10 be withdrawn.

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Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance for claims 1 – 6, and 8 – 10 is respectfully requested. If the Examiner is of the opinion that the instant application is in condition for disposition other than through allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below so that additional changes may be discussed.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard J. Coldren
Reg. No. 44,084
THORP REED & ARMSTRONG, LLP
One Oxford Centre
301 Grant Street, 14th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1425
(412) 394-2442

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Attorneys for Applicant